

Judith A. Monroe, M.D. State Health Commissioner



DATE:

August 26, 2009

TO:

All Local Health Departments

Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM:

A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS

Manager, Food Protection Program

SUBJECT:

FDA News Release Stolen Insulin

SUGGESTED

ACTION:

Unclassified Recall; Stolen vials of the long-acting insulin Levemir made by Novo Nordisk Inc;

Recommend notification to establishments that may carry these products via phone, fax or e-

mail.

From the information provided by FDA, the evidence gathered to date suggests that the stolen insulin was not stored and handled properly and may be dangerous for people to use. Check your personal supply of insulin to determine if you have Levemir insulin from one of the following lots: XZF0036; XZF0037; XZF0038.

FDA NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 26, 2009

Media Inquiries: Karen Riley, 301-796-4674, karen.riley@fda.hhs.gov

Consumer Inquiries: 888-INFO-FDA

FDA Warns About Stolen Insulin

Update to June Alert

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is reminding the public that stolen vials of the long-acting insulin Levemir made by Novo Nordisk Inc. still may be on the market.

Evidence gathered to date suggests that the stolen insulin was not stored and handled properly and may be dangerous for people to use. The FDA has received multiple reports of patients who suffered an adverse event due to poor control of glucose levels after using a vial from one of the stolen lots.



When the FDA first alerted the public to the theft in June, it reported that three lots of Levemir totaling 129,000 vials had been stolen in North Carolina. So far only about 2 percent of the total amount stolen has been recovered.

The FDA continues to aggressively investigate this matter and is asking for the public's help in reporting any information regarding these vials to the FDA's Office of Criminal Investigations (OCI) by calling 800-551-3989 or by visiting the OCI Web site (http://www.fda.gov/OCI).

The agency is advising patients who use Levemir insulin to:

- 1. Check your personal supply of insulin to determine if you have Levemir insulin from one of the following lots: XZF0036; XZF0037; XZF0038. You can locate the lot number on the side of the box of insulin and also on the side of the vial.
- 2. Do not use your Levemir insulin if it is from one of these lots. Replace it with a vial of Levemir insulin from another lot. If you must switch to another brand of insulin for any reason, first contact your health care provider because another insulin product may require adjustments in dosing.
- 3. Always look at your insulin carefully before using it. Levemir is a clear and colorless solution.

Levemir insulin photo:

http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm166361.htm